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SUMMARY

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT



25X1C

SOUTHEAST ASIA ACTIVITY REPORT

SELECTED TRANSPORTATION AND INFILTRATION COMPENDIUM

CABLE BRIDGE STATUS

NPIC/R-12/68
JANUARY 1968

SUMMARY NO 72

GROUP 1 EXCLUDED FROM
AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING
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PREFACE

This report is a summary of selected information on transportation and infiltration activity in southeast Asia as reported by NPIC during the period indicated on the cover. Those lines of communication and associated facilities which support communist insurgency in Laos and South Vietnam are emphasized.

Items are numbered and arranged according to location from north to south. Annotated maps of varying scales have been included to assist the reader in locating the items. Each large-scale map depicts all motorable roads photographically confirmed by NPIC unless otherwise indicated.

Missions, mission dates, frames, and NPIC cable and briefing board references are listed after each item, as appropriate.

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CABLE BRIDGE STATUS

[REDACTED]

bridges are often used in conjunction with fords, ferries, or pontoon bridges and provide an alternate method of crossing a river where the main bridge is unserviceable.

Seventy-four cable bridges have been identified by NPIC: 41 have cables or are under construction; 23 have been destroyed or dismantled; 2 have not been observed [REDACTED]

25X1D

[REDACTED] and 8 have been reevaluated as non-cable bridges. With the exception of the destroyed Xom Khe Railroad Cable Bridge, all bridges are intended for vehicular usage.

Two refinements of the cable bridge have been observed. The suspension cable bridge is used to span lengths over 200 feet. Seven of these (including two probable, one dismantled, and one under construction) have been located, and examples are shown near Lang Son, Viet Tri, and Ha Noi (Figures 1, 4, and 5). The treadway cable bridge utilizes parallel dual tracks which are lighter and easier to remove. At least six have been identified (Figures 2, 3, 8, and 9).

Two cable bridges are in Laos on Route 912, a major supply route from North Vietnam. One of these bridges has cables and one is dismantled.

The cable bridges have proved more susceptible to airstrikes than was first believed (see Figures 12 and 13). Well over half of the bridges in the southern Panhandle have been destroyed or have been dismantled or abandoned as a result of airstrikes. The majority of usable bridges are located in the central and northern regions, where they have apparently benefited from better air defenses and a proximity to more strategic targets.

Eight previously reported cable bridges (Summaries 17 and 24) have been reevaluated by NPIC as non-cable bridges. Most of these were railroad bridges and utilized cables only during construction or repair periods. These eight bridges are as follows:

1. Dong Bai Railroad Bridge over the Song Tien: Vinh/Dong Hoi Rail Line, 18-09N 105-43E [REDACTED] 25X1D
2. Xom Ca Trang Highway Bridge over the Nam Quat: Route 15, 17-57N 105-48E [REDACTED] 25X1D

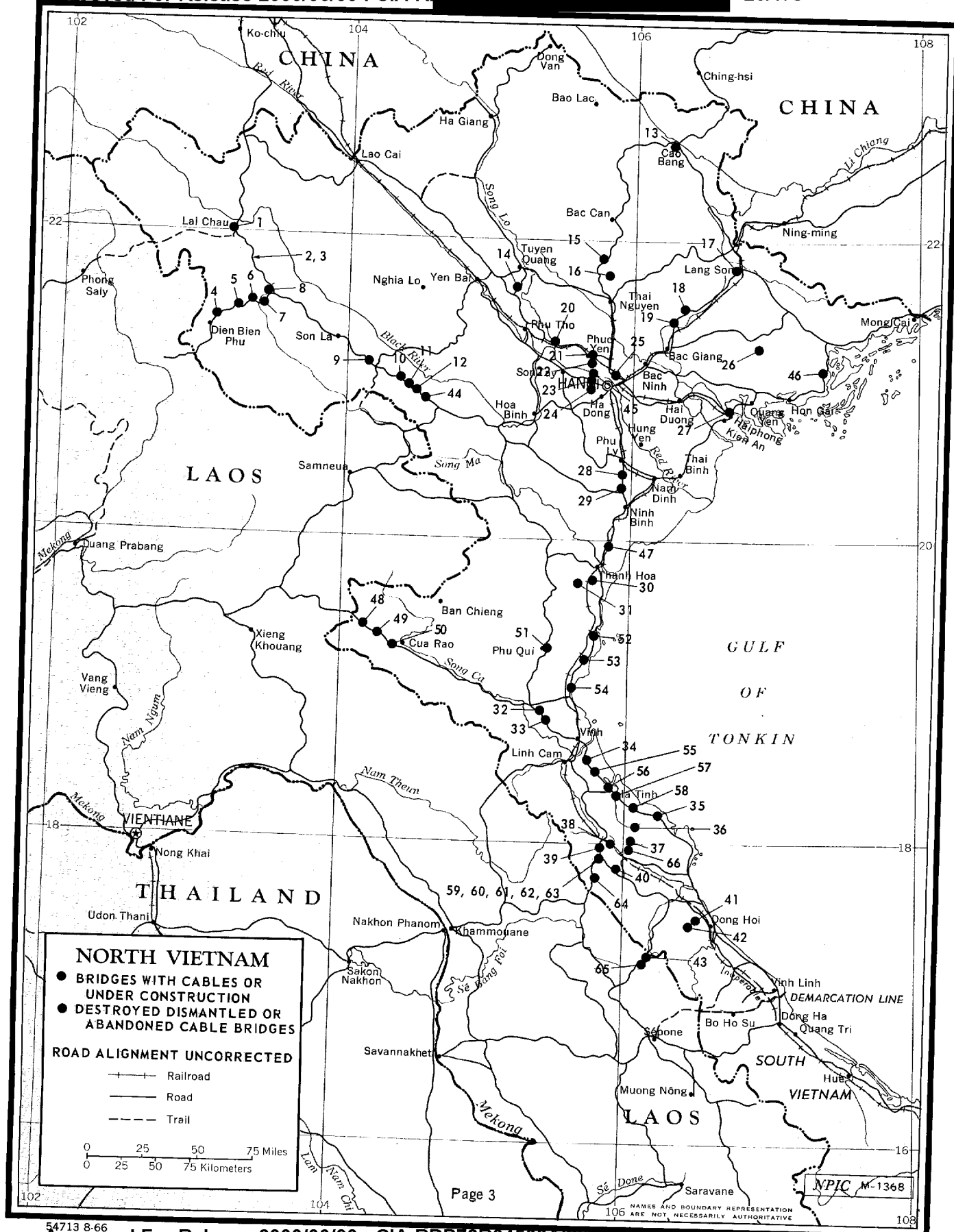
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3. Kim Lu Xa Railroad Bridge over the Khe Danh: Vinh/Dong Hoi Rail Line, 17-57N 105-57E [REDACTED] 25X1D
4. Thuong Phong Trang Railroad Bridge over an Unnamed Stream: Vinh/Dong Hoi Rail Line, 17-54N 106-00E [REDACTED] 25X1D
5. Thuong Phong Trang Railroad Bridge over an Unnamed Stream: Vinh/Dong Hoi Rail Line, 17-54N 106-00E [REDACTED] 25X1D
6. Thuong Phong Trang Railroad Bridge over the Rao Nay: Vinh/Dong Hoi Rail Line, 17-54N 106-00E [REDACTED] 25X1D
7. Dong Le Phuong Railroad Bridge over the Cai Khe: Vinh/Dong Hoi Rail Line, 17-53N 106-01E [REDACTED] 25X1D
8. Dong Ha Highway Bridge over an Unnamed Stream: Route 1, South Vietnam, 16-52N 107-05E [REDACTED] 25X1D

The 66 cable bridges carried by NPIC are individually discussed in a general north-to-south order as numbered on the accompanying map.

Cable Bridges Completed or Under Construction
25X1D

1. 22-03N 103-09E (UTM [REDACTED]) Lai Chau Cable Bridge over the Nam Lai; Route 4/6. Anchorages are covered and approaches show recent use. Four cables are observed. Decking is on the bridge ends and the approaches. An adjacent ford is serviceable. The main bridge to the south is camouflaged and serviceable. [REDACTED] 25X1D

25X1D

25X1D

2. 21-48N 103-18E [REDACTED]; Ban Pa Nuone Cable Bridge over the Nam Meuk; Route 6. This bridge has not been observed on recent photography. (Summary 17). 25X1D

3. 21-48N 103-18E [REDACTED]; Ban Pa Nuone Dummy Cable Bridge over the Nam Meuk; Route 6. This bridge has not been observed on recent photography. (Summary 44). 25X1D

4. 21-27N 103-04E [REDACTED]; Ban Na Ngam Cable Bridge over the Nam Phan; Route 19. Interdicted approaches have been repaired; probable cables remain intact. No decking is observed. [REDACTED] 25X1D
[REDACTED] (Summary 17).

25X1D

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25X1C

25X1D

5. 21-33N 103-16E (); Ban Pa Ang Cable Bridge over the Nam Co; Route 19. Decking is along the serviceable approaches and six cables are observed. A new, adjacent ford is in late stages of construction. (Summary 17).

25X1D

25X1D

6. 21-31N 103-20E (); Ban Bung Cable Bridge over the Song Chay; Route 19. Deck panels are along both approaches. Approaches show recent use. Six cables are observed. (Summary 17).

25X1D

25X1D

7. 21-31N 103-21E (); Ban Bung Cable Bridge over the Nam Hua; Route 19. Eastern approach has been repaired and decking is on both approaches. At least two cables are observed. Adjacent ford is serviceable. (Summary 17).

25X1D

25X1D

8. 21-34N 103-23E (); Tuan Giao Cable Bridge over the Nam Chua; Route 19. Rolled decking is on the serviceable approaches. Six cables are observed. An adjacent ford is serviceable. (Summary 17).

25X1D

25X1D

25X1D

9. 21-12N 104-06E (); Ban Lot Cable Bridge over the Nam Pan; Route 6. Active approach roads contain decking. Four cables are observed. (Summary 17).

25X1D

25X1D

10. 21-02N 104-19E (); Ban Nghe Cable Bridge over the Nam Vat; Route 6. Approaches appear overgrown and no decking is observed. Four cables remain intact. (Summary 17).

25X1D

25X1D

11. 21-02N 104-21E (); Ban Thin Cable Bridge over the Nam Vat; Route 6. Approaches show light use and at least four cables are observed. Probable decking is on each end of the bridge. (Summary 17).

25X1D

25X1D

25X1D

12. 21-02N 104-21E (); Ban Thin Cable Bridge over the Nam Vat; Route 6. Approaches are camouflaged. At least two, possibly four, cables have decking on each end. (Summary 17).

25X1D

25X1D

13. 22-34N 106-15E (); Cao Bang Cable Bridge over the Hiem; Route 4 By-pass. Anchorages are covered, and at least two cables are observed. (Summary 17).

25X1D

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25X1D

14. 21-38N 105-11E [REDACTED]; Phu Doan Suspension Cable Bridge over the Song Chay; Route 2. Obliquity and scale preclude cable status, but both approaches are serviceable. A pontoon bridge is assembled 0.4 nm southeast of the suspension bridge. [REDACTED] 25X1D (Summaries 13 and 17). 25X1D

15. 21-52N 105-46E [REDACTED]; Cho Moi Cable Bridge over the Song Cho Chu; Route 3. Approaches are serviceable over the covered anchorages. At least four cables are observed, but no decking is apparent. [REDACTED] 25X1D

25X1D

25X1D

16. 21-38N 105-48E [REDACTED]; Thai Nguyen Probable Suspension Cable Bridge over the Song Cau; New Road Under Construction Between Routes 13A and 1B. At least four cables and possible decking are observed. [REDACTED] 25X1D

25X1D

25X1D

17. 21-50N 106-44E [REDACTED] Lang Son Suspension Cable Bridge over the Song Ky Cung; Route 1A. Approaches are serviceable. Four cables and seven cable stabilizers are observed, but no decking is visible. [REDACTED] 25X1D (Figure 1).

25X1D

18. 21-30N 106-21E [REDACTED] Lang Met Cable Bridge over the Song Trung; Route 1. Although approaches appear to be in disuse, probable decking is on the northern approach. One pier from the destroyed main bridge helps support two, possibly four, cables. Seven cable stabilizers are observed. A ford immediately west is in disuse, but a pontoon bridge is assembled 500 yards to the south. [REDACTED] 25X1D (Summary 17). 25X1D

25X1D

19. 21-26N 106-17E [REDACTED] Kep Treadway Cable Bridge over the Song Thuong; Route 1A By-pass. Decking is on the serviceable approaches. At least eight cables and at least six cable stabilizers are observed. [REDACTED] (Figure 2).

25X1D

20. 21-17N 105-26E [REDACTED]; Viet Tri Suspension Cable Bridge over the Song Lo (Riviere Claire); Route 2. This bridge is constructed at the site of the destroyed Viet Tri Railroad and Highway Bridge. Decking is on the approaches. At least two deck cables and two suspension cables are observed between the four suspension towers. Six rail ferry slips, two of which are serviceable, and a serviceable highway ferry are in the area. [REDACTED] (Figure 3).

25X1D

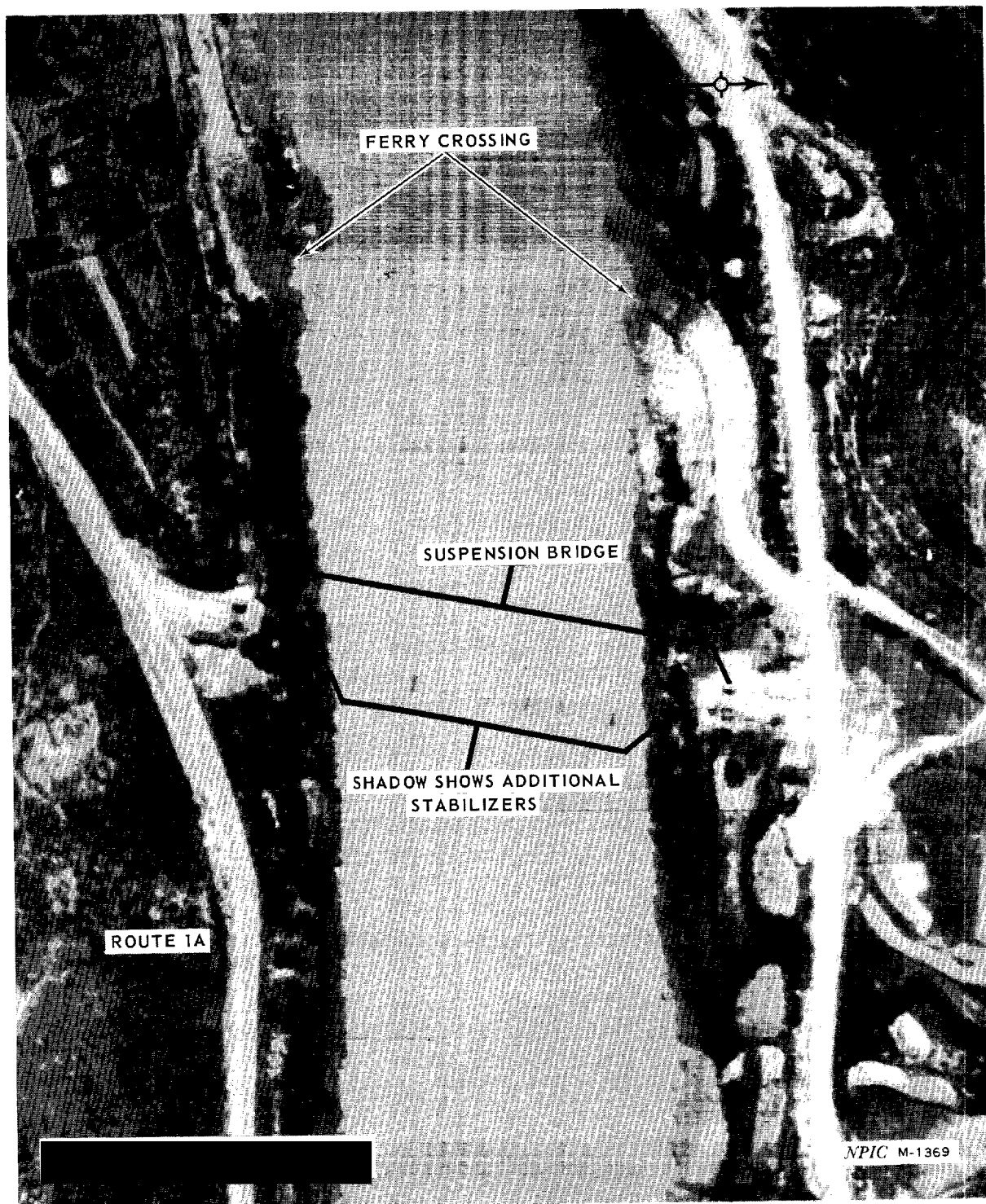
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25X1C

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25X1D

FIGURE 1. SUSPENSION CABLE BRIDGE OVER THE SONG KY CUNG, LANG SON AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

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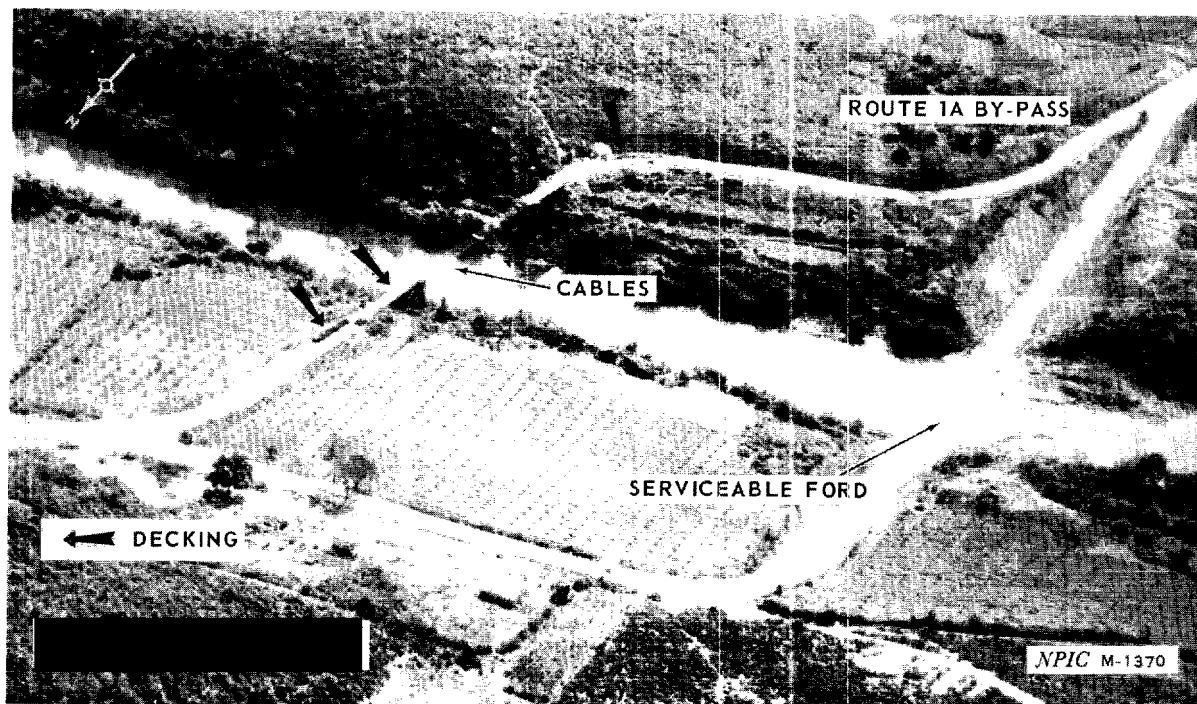


FIGURE 2. TREADWAY CABLE BRIDGE OVER THE SONG THUONG, KEP AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

25X1D

21. 21-02N 105-45E [REDACTED] Ha Noi Cable Bridge over the S Nhue Giang; Unnumbered Road Near Route 11A. The approach on the east bank is under construction. Anchorages are uncovered on the west bank. Decking is on the west bank. Two cables are observed. [REDACTED]

25X1D

25X1D

22. 21-02N 105-45E [REDACTED]; Ha Noi Treadway Cable Bridge over the S Nhue Giang; Unnumbered Road Near Route 11A. Approximately one-fourth of the decking is on at least two cables. [REDACTED]

25X1D

25X1D

23. 21-02N 105-45E [REDACTED] Ha Noi Treadway Cable Bridge over the S Nhue Giang; Unnumbered Road Near Route 11A. Approaches are under construction. Four cables and 14 cable stabilizers are observed. [REDACTED]

24. 21-01N 105-45E [REDACTED] Ha Noi Treadway Cable Bridge over the S Nhue Giang; Unnumbered Road Near Route 11A. Complete decking is on cables. A support pier is in the center of the bridge. [REDACTED] (Figure 4).

25X1D

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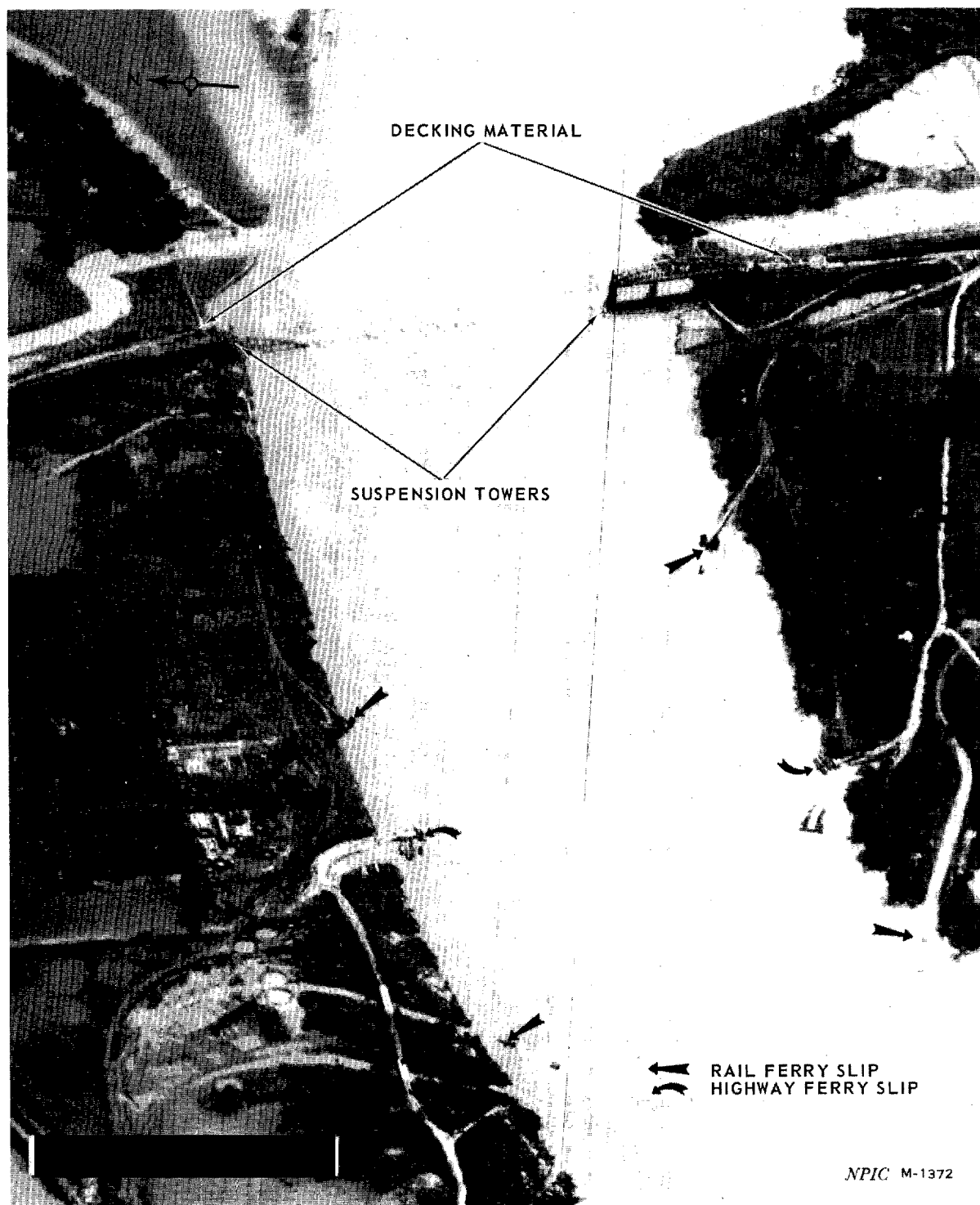


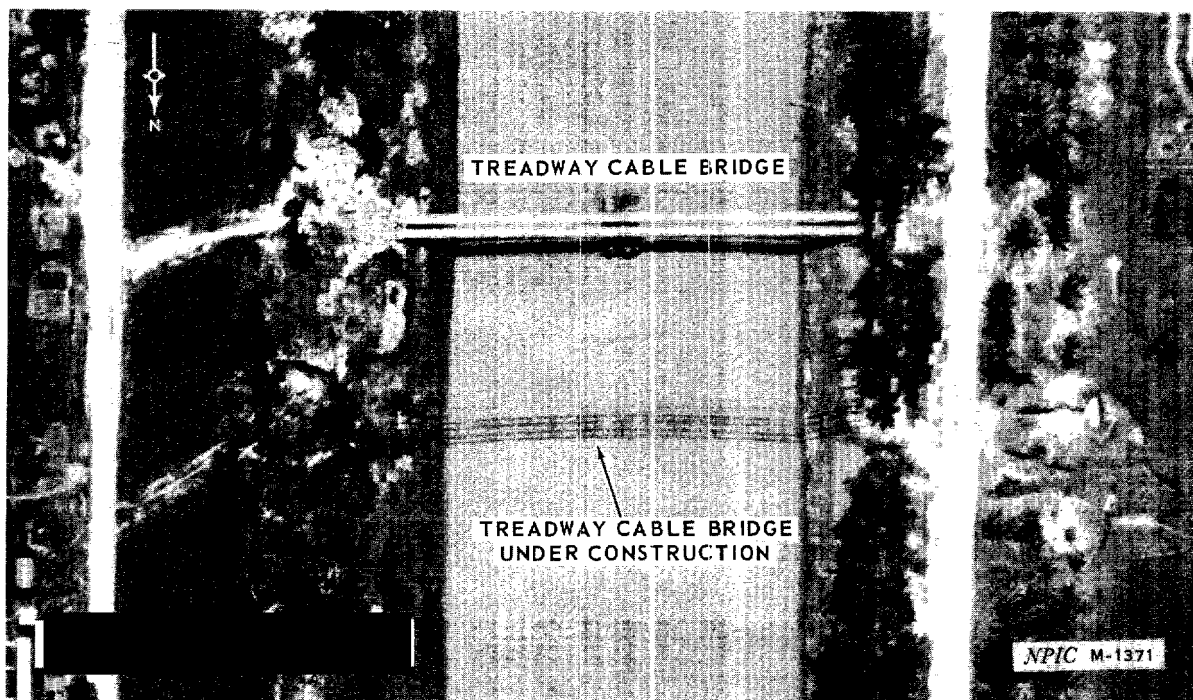
FIGURE 3. SUSPENSION CABLE BRIDGE OVER THE SONG LO, VIET TRI AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

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25X1C



25X1D

FIGURE 4. TREADWAY CABLE BRIDGES OVER THE S NHUE GIANG, HA NOI AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

25X1D

25. 21-04N 105-54E [REDACTED]; Ha Noi Suspension Cable Bridge Under Construction over the Song Duong (Canal des Rapides); Route 1A. Approaches are under construction. Six cables, including two suspension cables, are observed. At least 11 cable stabilizers are on the bridge.

25X1D

[REDACTED] (Figure 5).

25X1D

26. 21-19N 106-51E [REDACTED]; An Chau Cable Bridge over the Song Luc Ngan; Route 184 By-pass to Route 13B. Approaches are complete and two cables are up. This cable bridge is probably for temporary use. Approaches for a new main bridge are under construction. [REDACTED], 25X1D

25X1D

[REDACTED] (Figure 6). 25X1D

27. 20-51N 106-40E [REDACTED]; Hai Phong Cable Bridge over the Song Tram Bac; Route 5. Probable deck materials are on serviceable approach. At least two cables and four cable stabilizers are observed. Bridge is at the site of a damaged lift bridge. [REDACTED] 25X1D (Figure 7).

25X1D

28. 20-21N 105-55E [REDACTED]; Tri Dong Cable Bridge over the Song Day; Route 1A. Approaches are serviceable and at least two cables are observed. Three serviceable ferries are in the immediate area. [REDACTED] 25X1D

25X1D

[REDACTED] (Summary 17).

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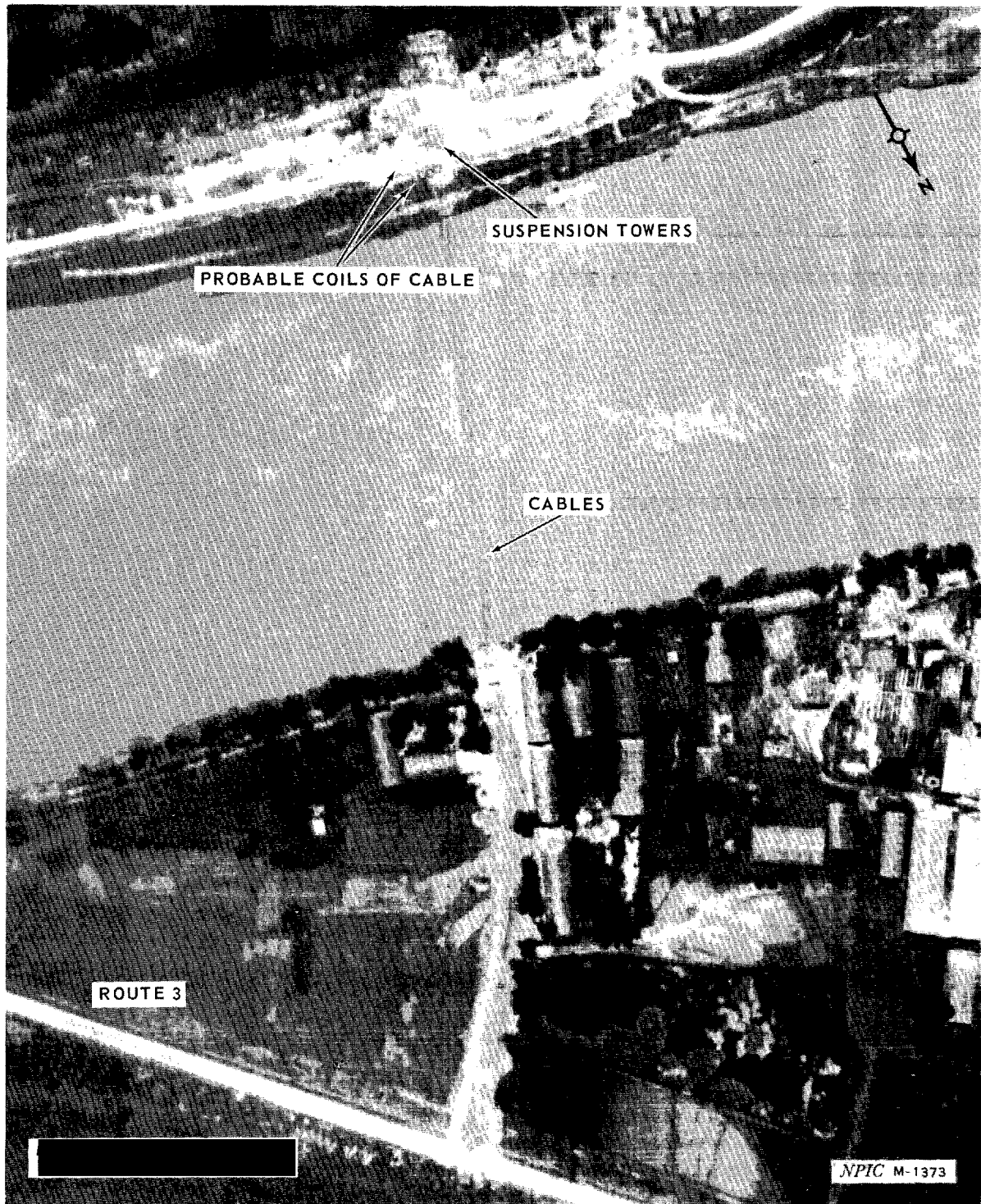


FIGURE 5. SUSPENSION BRIDGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION OVER THE SONG DUONG, HA NOI AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

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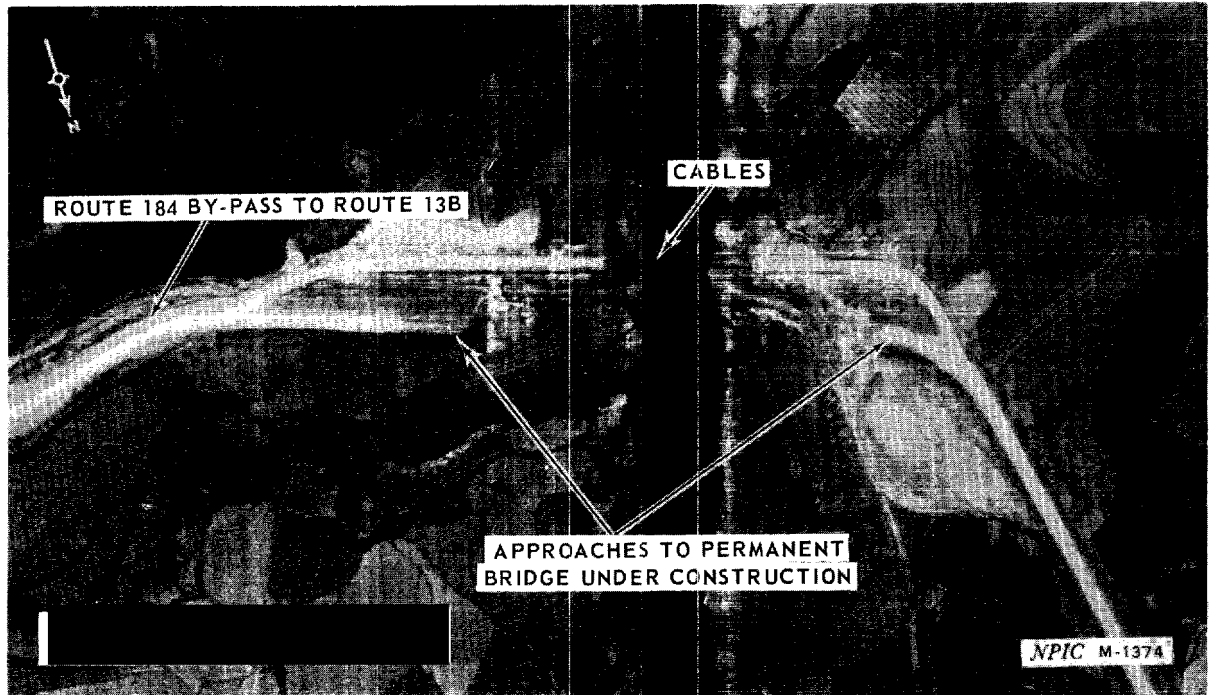


FIGURE 6. TEMPORARY CABLE BRIDGE OVER THE SONG LUC NGAN, AN CHAU AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

25X1D

29. 20-19N 105-56E [REDACTED]; Gian Khau Cable Bridge over the Hoang Long Giang; Route 1A. Anchorages are being dug on both approaches. Bridge is at the site of the previous main bridge, three spans of which remain intact. A partially assembled pontoon bridge is located immediately west. [REDACTED] 25X1D

25X1D

30. 19-43N 105-43E [REDACTED]; Yen Bin Probable Suspension Cable Bridge over the Vi Giang; Route 704. Probable suspension towers are on both banks. Anchorages are in on the east bank. Two possible suspension cables are observed. [REDACTED] 25X1D

25X1D

31. 19-42N 105-41E [REDACTED]; Tri Thon Cable Bridge over an Unnamed Stream; Route 704/705. Both anchorages are in; one is covered. The southwest anchorage is unusually far from the river. No decking is observed. [REDACTED] 25X1D

25X1D

32. 18-50N 105-22E [REDACTED]; Dao My Cable Bridge over the Song Cuong; Route 72. Approaches appear to have had recent use. Two possible cables and possible decking on the southern approach are observed. [REDACTED] 25X1D

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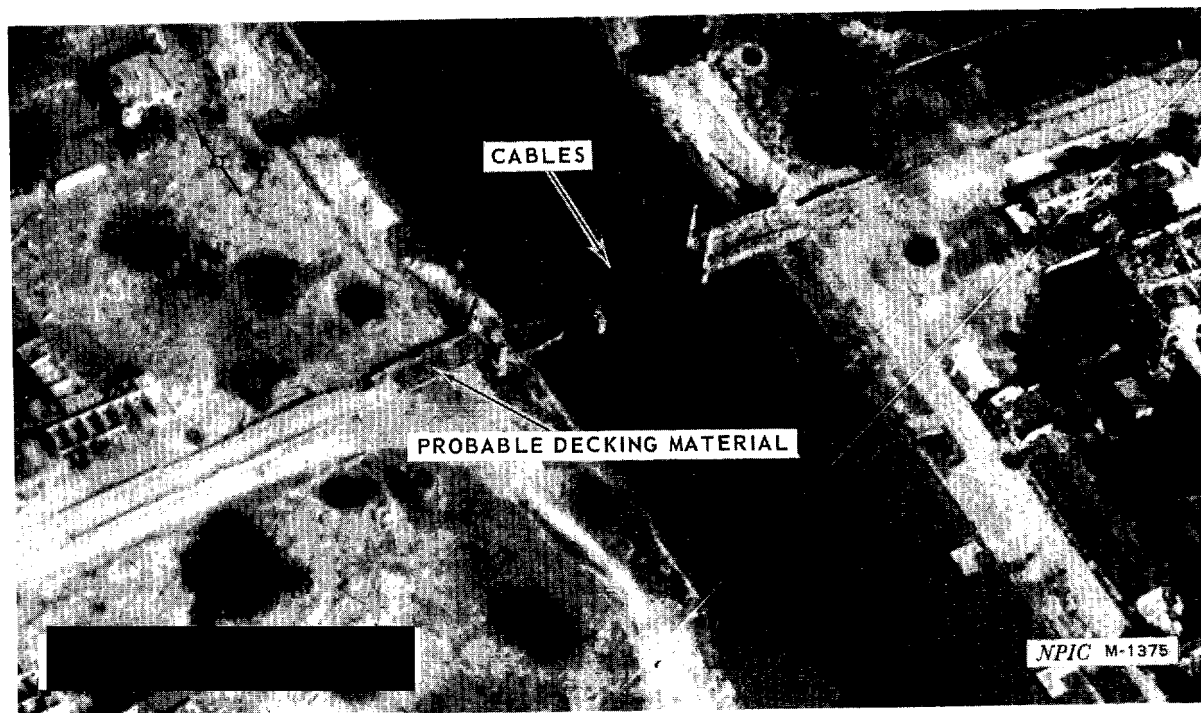


FIGURE 7. CABLE BRIDGE OVER THE SONG TRAM BAC, HAI PHONG, NORTH VIETNAM

25X1D

33. 18-50N 105-22E [REDACTED]; Dao My Cable Bridge over the Song Cuong; Route 72. Approaches appear to have had recent use. Two remaining piers support two cables. A ford immediately west is serviceable.

25X1D

25X1D

34. 18-27N 105-46E [REDACTED]; Tho Son Cable Bridge over the Song Nghen; Route 1A. Bridge is at the site of the main bridge, of which two spans remain intact. It is not being used by vehicles, although at least two cables are observed. Three ferry crossings in the area are in use. [REDACTED] (Summary 17).

25X1D

25X1D

35. 18-12N 106-07E [REDACTED]; Ha Tinh Treadway Cable Bridge over the Song Rac; Route 1A. Approaches are serviceable. Part of the track-type deck sections are on each end of the bridge. Six cables and one cable stabilizer are observed. A ferry crossing is under construction nearby. [REDACTED] (Figure 8).

25X1D

25X1D

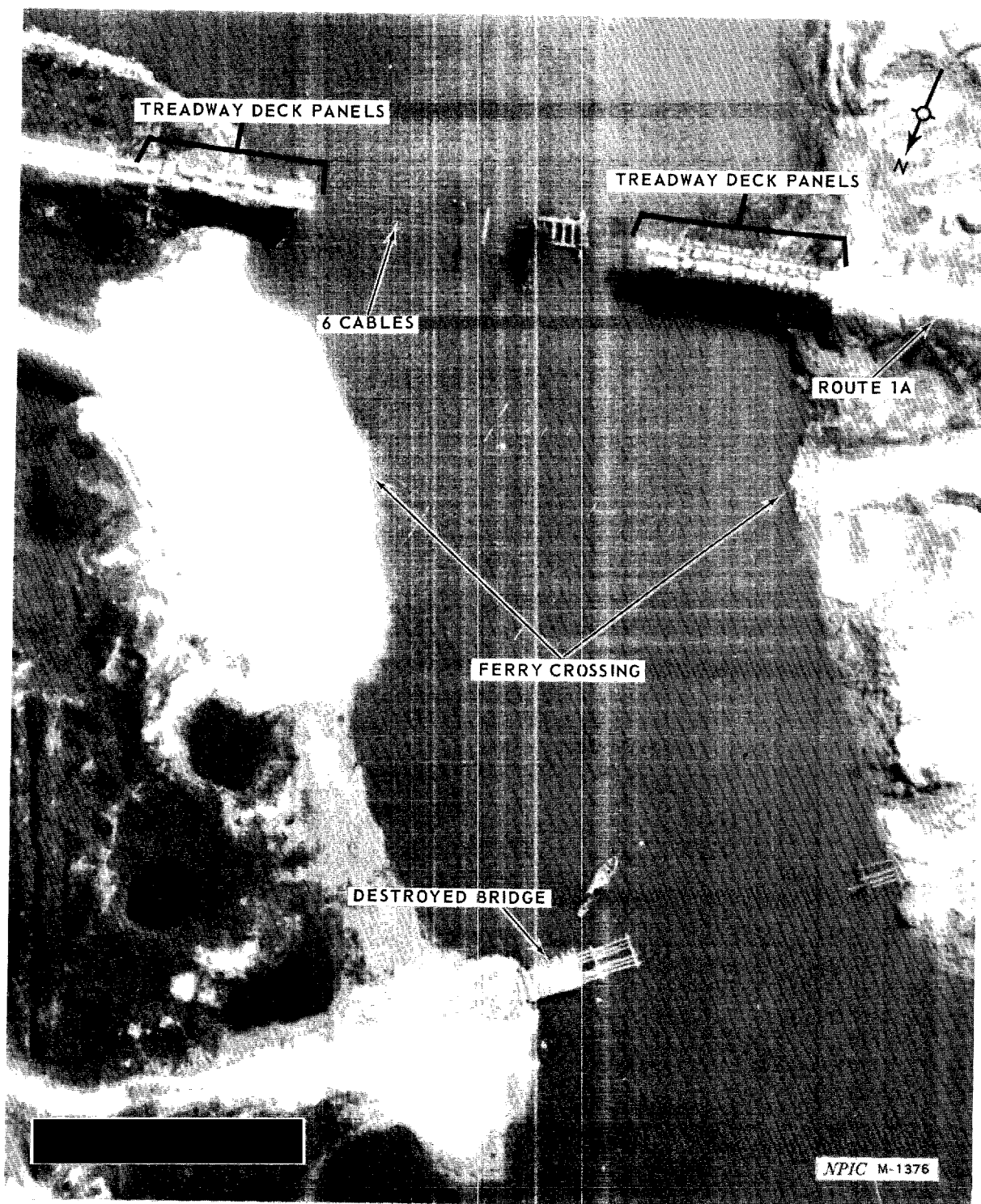
36. 18-04N 106-05E [REDACTED]; My Son Cable Bridge over an Unnamed Stream; Route 108. Anchorages are under construction. [REDACTED] 25X1D

25X1D

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25X1D

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FIGURE 8. TREADWAY CABLE BRIDGE OVER THE SONG RAC, HA TINH AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

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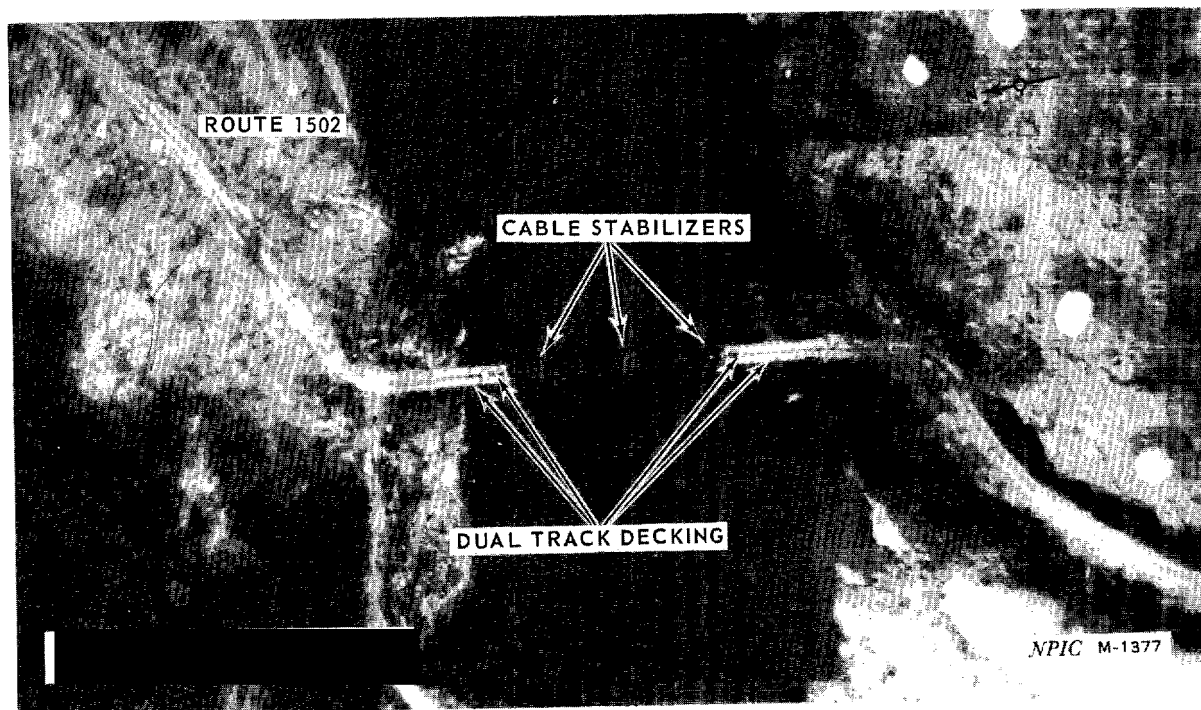


FIGURE 9. TREADWAY CABLE BRIDGE OVER THE RAU CAI, XOM CA TRANG AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

25X1D

37. 18-00N 106-01E ([REDACTED]) My Son Cable Bridge over an Unnamed Stream; Route 108. Approaches are unserviceable. One anchorage is open, one is covered. Six taut cables and no decking are observed. [REDACTED] 25X1D

25X1D [REDACTED] 25X1D

38. 17-57N 105-49E ([REDACTED]); Xom Ca Trang Cable Bridge over the Nam Quat; Route 15. Approaches appear improved. Four cables are observed. [REDACTED]

25X1D

39. 17-57N 105-48E ([REDACTED]); Xom Ca Trang Treadway Cable Bridge over the Rau Cai; Route 1502. Approaches are serviceable. Part of the deck tracks are being placed on the six cables, the rest is on the approaches. Three cable stabilizers are observed. [REDACTED] 25X1D

25X1D

40. 17-44N 105-58E ([REDACTED]); Xom Bet Cable Bridge over the Song Nan; Route 101. Approaches are under construction. At least two cables are observed. [REDACTED] 25X1D

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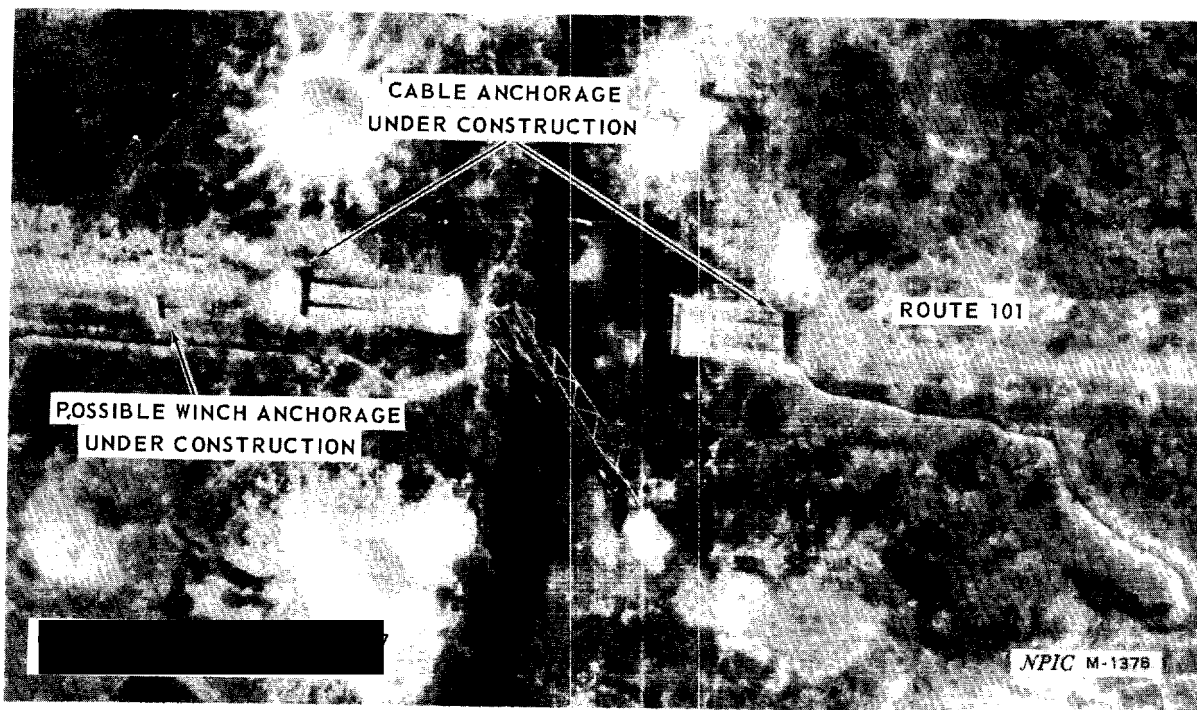


FIGURE 10. CABLE BRIDGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION OVER AN UNNAMED STREAM, TRUNG NGHIA AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

41. 17-27N 106-33E [REDACTED]; Trung Nghia Cable Bridge over an Unnamed Stream; Route 101. Anchorages are under construction at the site of the destroyed main bridge. No cables or decking are observed. (Figure 10).

42. 17-28N 106-30E [REDACTED] Phu Qui Cable Bridge over the Song Dun; Route 101 By-pass. Approaches are camouflaged. Four cables and probable decking are observed. (Figure 11).

43. 17-12N 106-09E [REDACTED] Ban Loboy Cable Bridge over the Nam Ta Le; Route 912 By-pass in Laos. The northern approach is camouflaged and the southern approach is under construction. Two cables are observed.

Previous Cable Bridge Sites

44. 21-02N 104-21E [REDACTED] Ban Ta Vai Cable Bridge over the Nam Vat; Route 6. This bridge has been dismantled. No cables are observed.

45. 21-02N 105-45E [REDACTED]; Ha Noi Cable Bridge over the S Nhue Giang; Unnumbered Road. Cables have been removed, site is abandoned.

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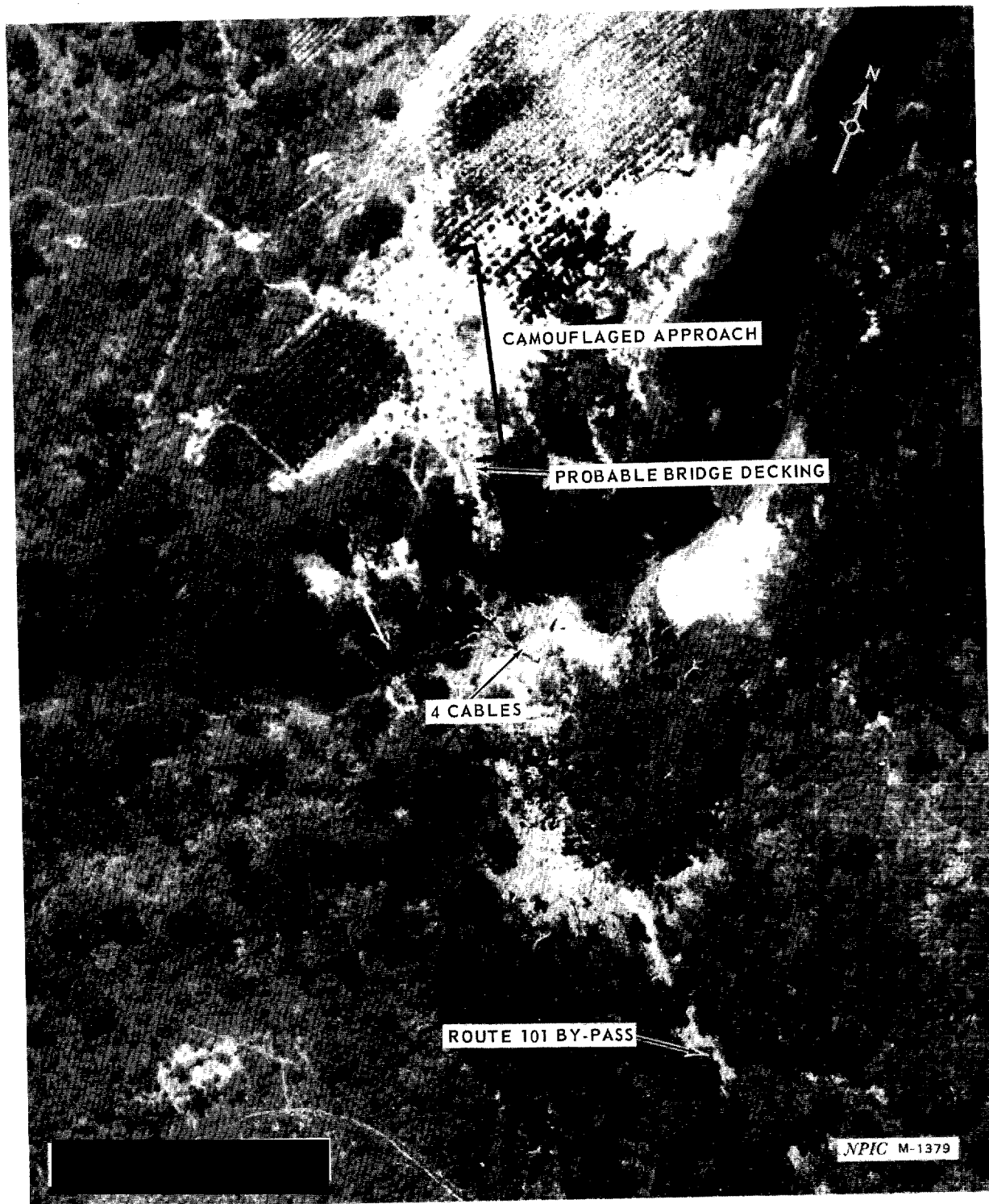


FIGURE 11. CABLE BRIDGE OVER THE SONG DUN, PHU QUI AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

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46. 21-07N 107-21E [REDACTED]; Cam Pha Cable Bridge over an Unnamed Stream; Route 18. Approaches are overgrown and in disuse. The bridge has been struck. A new by-pass bridge is located 0.6 nm west. [REDACTED]

25X1D

25X1D

47. 19-58N 105-50E [REDACTED]; Dong Phong Thuong Suspension Bridge over the Song Lau; Route 1A. The southern approach is interdicted and all cables have been removed. A pontoon bridge is being assembled and a serviceable ferry crossing is in use. [REDACTED] (Summaries 25, 38, and 59).

25X1D

25X1D

48. 19-24N 104-08E [REDACTED]; Muong Sen Cable Bridge over the Nam Mu; Route 7. Approaches are overgrown and no cables are discernible. A nearby ford is being used. [REDACTED] (Summary 17).

25X1D

25X1D

49. 19-21N 104-15E [REDACTED]; Ban Ca Nan Cable Bridge over the Nam Ca Nan; Route 7. Approaches have been severely interdicted. [REDACTED]

25X1D

25X1D

25X1D

50. 19-16N 104-21E [REDACTED]; Khe Kien Cable Bridge over the Nam Kien; Route 7. Construction has been abandoned. [REDACTED]

25X1D

25X1D

25X1D

51. 19-20N 105-26E [REDACTED]; Nghia Hung Cable Bridge over the Song Vang; Route 15. The southern approach is in disuse, the northern approach has been interdicted. No cables remain. [REDACTED]

25X1D

25X1D

25X1D

52. 19-19N 105-43E [REDACTED]; Son Chau Cable Bridge over the Cua Bang; Route 1A. This site has been abandoned. [REDACTED]

25X1D

25X1D

25X1D

53. 19-14N 105-42E [REDACTED]; Thien Ki Cable Bridge over the Song Hoang Mai; Route 1A. This bridge has been dismantled. Two nearby ferry slips are operational. [REDACTED]

25X1D

25X1D

54. 19-00N 105-35E [REDACTED]; Ly Nhan Cable Bridge over the Song Bang; Route 1A. This bridge has been dismantled. [REDACTED]

25X1D

25X1D

25X1D

55. 18-25N 105-48E [REDACTED]; Xom Gia Cable Bridge over the Song Gia; Route 1A. Construction has been abandoned. [REDACTED]

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56. 18-21N 105-52E [REDACTED]; Ha Tinh Cable Bridge over the Song Chau Lam; Route 1A. Construction has been abandoned. [REDACTED] 25X1D
25X1D [REDACTED] (Summary 18).

25X1D

57. 18-19N 105-55E [REDACTED]; Ha Tinh Cable Bridge over the Song Nai; Route 1A. Construction has been abandoned. [REDACTED] 25X1D
25X1D [REDACTED] (Summary 17).

25X1D

58. 18-14N 106-01E [REDACTED]; Cam Xuyen Cable Bridge over the Song Gia Hoi; Route 1A. Construction has been abandoned, the southern approach has been interdicted. [REDACTED] (Note comparative coverage, Figures 12 and 13.) 25X1D
25X1D

59. 17-57N 105-48E [REDACTED]; Xom Ca Trang Cable Bridge over the Nam Quat; Route 15. This bridge is completely destroyed/dismantled. [REDACTED]
25X1D [REDACTED]

25X1D

60. 17-57N 105-48E [REDACTED]; Xom Ca Trang Cable Bridge over the Rao Cai; Route 15. This bridge has been completely destroyed. [REDACTED] 25X1A
25X1D [REDACTED]

25X1D

61. 17-57N 105-48E [REDACTED]; Xom Ca Trang Dummy Cable Bridge over the Rao Cai; Route 1502. This bridge has been dismantled. [REDACTED] 25X1D
25X1D [REDACTED]

25X1D

62. 17-57N 105-48E [REDACTED]; Xom Ca Trang Dummy Cable Bridge over the Rao Cai; Route 1502. Approaches are overgrown. Light-colored ropes/cables and decking have been removed since [REDACTED] 25X1D
25X1D [REDACTED]

25X1D

63. 17-50N 105-48E [REDACTED]; La Trong Cable Bridge over an Unnamed Stream; Route 15. No cables are observed on the bridge. A by-pass ford is being used. [REDACTED] (Summary 51). 25X1D
25X1D

25X1D

64. 17-49N 105-46E [REDACTED]; Don Bai Dinh Cable Bridge over the Khe Cha Lo; Route 15. Approaches are unserviceable, no cables are observed. Fords in the area are serviceable. [REDACTED] 25X1D
25X1D [REDACTED]

25X1D

65. 17-12N 106-09E [REDACTED]; Ban Loboy Cable Bridge over the Nam Ta Le; Route 912 By-pass in Laos. Cables have been removed. Approach roads are in disuse. [REDACTED] (Summaries 13, 17, and 52). 25X1D 25X1D

66. 17-58N 105-55E [REDACTED]; Xom Khe Railroad Cable Bridge over the Khe Net; Vinh/Dong Hoi Rail Line. Bridge is destroyed. (Summary 15). 25X1D

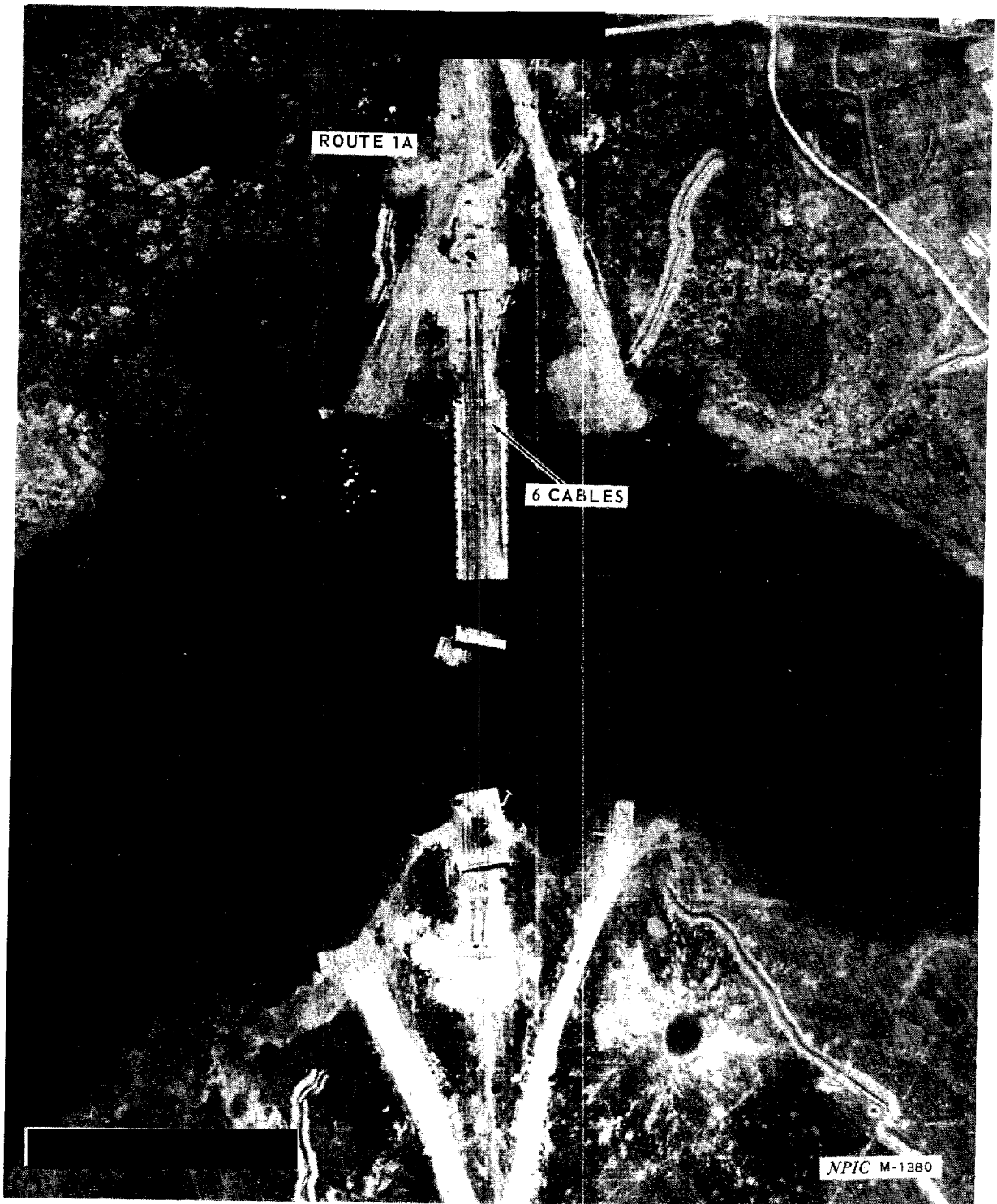
SECRET

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NPIC/R-12/68

25X1C

25X1D



25X1D

FIGURE 12. CABLE BRIDGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION OVER THE SONG GIA HOI, CAM XUYEN AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

SECRET

25X1C

SECRET

NPIC R-12/68

25X1C

25X1D



25X1D

FIGURE 13. CONSTRUCTION ABANDONED, BRIDGE STRUCK, SONG GIA HOI, CAM XUYEN AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

SECRET

25X1C

Approved For Release 2000/06/30 : CIA-RDP78B04560A006200010011-8
NO FOREIGN DISSEM [REDACTED] 25X1C

Approved For Release 2000/06/30 : CIA-RDP78B04560A006200010011-8
NO FOREIGN DISSEM [REDACTED] 25X1C